

B R O B D I N G N A G

 Brobdingnag #56 1966AV (F'04) 1966AQ (F'05) 1 April 1967

Game 1966AV

Fall 1904

GERMANY SEIZES POLAND
 FRANCE AND TURKEY CAPITULATE
 BRITISH GAINS IN NORTH AND SOUTH

The moves:

GERMANY (Shagrin): Army Gascony to Marseilles. Army Burgundy supports army Gascony to Marseilles. Army Munich to Bohemia. Army Silesia supports army Prussia to Warsaw. Army Prussia to Warsaw. Army Livonia to Moscow. Fleet Denmark to Helgoland Bight.

RUSSIA (Zelazny): Fleet St. Petersburg (south coast) stands. Army Warsaw to Moscow. Army Rumania to Budapest. Fleet Bulgaria (south coast) supports ITALIAN fleet Ionian Sea to Greece. Army Armenia to Smyrna. Army Constantinople supports army Armenia to Smyrna. Fleet Black Sea to Ankara.

ENGLAND (Wells): Army Finland to St. Petersburg. Fleet Barents Sea supports army Finland to St. Petersburg. Fleet Norway to Norwegian Sea. Fleet Baltic to Gulf of Bothnia. Fleet Mid-Atlantic to Portugal. Fleet Spain (south coast) supports fleet Mid-Atlantic to Portugal.

AUSTRIA (Munroe): Fleet Adriatic to Trieste. Army Vienna supports fleet Adriatic to Trieste. Army Budapest supports fleet Adriatic to Trieste. Army Greece to Serbia. Army Apulia to Rome.

ITALY (Francis): Fleet Ionian Sea to Greece. Fleet Marseilles stands. Army Tyrolia to Vienna. Army Trieste supports RUSSIAN army Rumania to Budapest. Army Venice to Rome.

TURKEY (Lebling): No move received. Army Smyrna stands.

FRANCE (Birsan): Army Tuscany to Rome. Army Portugal to Spain.

Underlined moves do not succeed. The Russian fleet in the south coast of St. Petersburg is annihilated being dislodged and having no available space to which to retreat. The Russian army in Warsaw is dislodged and may retreat to Galicia or the Ukraine. The Italian fleet in Marseilles is dislodged and may retreat to the Gulf of Lyon or to Piedmont. The French army in Portugal is annihilated, having no available retreat. The Turkish army in Smyrna is likewise annihilated, having received no orders. The Deadline for retreat orders is Saturday, 15 April 1967.

As a result of these moves the belligerent powers control the supply centres listed overleaf.

BROBDINGNAG is a journal of Postal Diplomacy. It is edited and published by John A. McCallum, Ralston, Alberta, Canada, and it sells for ten cents per copy.

GERMANY: 3 home, Denmark, Sweden, Belgium, Paris, Marseilles, Warsaw.
(9). May build two.
ENGLAND: 3 home, Norway, St. Petersburg, Holland, Brest, Portugal, Spain.
(9). May build three.
RUSSIA: Moscow, Sevastopol, Rumania, Bulgaria, Constantinople, Ankara,
Smyrna. (7). May build one.
ITALY: 3 home, Tunis, Trieste, Greece. (6). May build one.
AUSTRIA: Vienna, Budapest, Serbia. (3). Must remove two.
FRANCE: None. Must remove remaining force.
TURKEY: None. No adjustment.

Those with adjustment orders to make may, if they wish, wait until they see the retreats. However, we went through all that last "year". There is not the same complexity this time and all with builds or removals are asked to submit them in time for the retreat deadline, Saturday, 15 April 1967. Such build and removal orders may be made conditional on the retreats of the other players. Those who have already submitted builds may, of course, change them if they wish.

All players should note the change of address for the player for Austria-Hungary:

James L. Munroe, 630 West Duarte Ro. (71),
Monrovia, Calif., 91016

PRESS RELEASES

Leipzig, 1 May. Prince Vlad, the Impaler, known to his friends as "In", is reported by his intimates to heap scorn on the heads of those whom he terms "the imbeciles of the Swiss Press". "It is INjustice to all that I mete out," he roars, "Not justice. That is what comes of living in a country with a perpendicular landscape: they get so used to nodding their heads to look about them, that they forget the meaning of a negative."

Moscow, 17 Oct. (Russkoe Znamia). Efforts to contact the Imperial North Fleet continue to be fruitless. Unofficially the word is that it has been wiped out by a fierce English attack. But "Samara, where are you?" still rises from the wireless.

Taurida, 1 November. (Russkoe Znamia). The Turkish campaign has been concluded. Emissaries of the new Turk government came on board the Kuban II at noon today to acknowledge the treaty. Although the populace of mother Russia will be free of the Turkish threat from now on, all must remember that the bitterest war has begun in the north, where already to boots of English and German invaders tread the earth of mother Russia. Come, England and Germany, for as the inevitable Russian winter arrives - so does the Russian army.

Turin, 10 Nov. (APF). The word going around among the French in exile here is: "Never trust an Englishman or a German, or an Italian for that matter. We did and look at France now." Most members of the disbanding French armies are finding their way disconsolately back to France, to resume civil life in either the German or the English occupied zones. Some, however, move in the opposite direction, southward to Taranto, to offer their services to the Austrians.

Breslau, 30 Nov. (DPG). Prince Vlad the Impaler, Fieldmarshal of the Armies of the East, today announced his impending marriage to one L. Bordscha. They make a fine couple, observers agreed.

Game 1966A9

DEADLOCK ON WESTERN FRONT
FRANCE OCCUPIES ALL BRITAIN
ITALO-TURKISH DE-FACTO TRUCE
RUSSIAN TROOPS INVADE NORTH ITALY

Spring 1905

Retreat:

ENGLAND: Fleet Sweden to Finland.

Fall 1905

The moves:

RUSSIA (Reinsel): Army Tyrolia to Piedmont. Army Vienna to Tyrolia. Army Galicia to Vienna. Army Trieste supports army Vienna to Tyrolia. Army Budapest supports army Trieste. Fleet Rumania stands. Army Sweden stands. Army St. Petersburg to Norway. Fleet Gulf of Bothnia supports army Sweden.

FRANCE (Thompson): Fleet Gulf of Lyon to Western Mediterranean. Army Liverpool to Edinburgh. Fleet London to Yorkshire. Army Burgundy supports army Belgium. Army Paris supports army Burgundy. Army Belgium supports army Burgundy. Army Picardy supports army Belgium. Fleet English Channel supports army Belgium.

TURKEY (Greene): No moves received. Fleets Albania, Ionian Sea, Aegean Sea, and Eastern Mediterranean, and armies Serbia and Bulgaria, all stand.

GERMANY (Nelson): Fleet North Sea to Belgium. Army Ruhr supports fleet North Sea to Belgium. Army Holland supports fleet North Sea to Belgium. Fleet Denmark to North Sea. Army Munich to Burgundy.

ITALY (Goldman): No moves received. Fleets Apulia, Adriatic and Tyrrhenian Sea and army Venice all stand.

ENGLAND (Long): Fleet Finland to Sweden. Fleet Skagerrak supports fleet Finland to Sweden.

Underlined moves do not succeed. There are no retreats.

As a result of these moves the belligerent powers control the supply centres listed:

RUSSIA: 4 home, 3 Austrian, Norway, Sweden. (10). May build one.

FRANCE: 3 home, 2 Iberian, Belgium, London, Liverpool, Edinburgh. (9). May build one.

TURKEY: 3 home, Bulgaria, Greece, Serbia. (6). No change.

GERMANY: 3 home, Denmark, Holland. (5). No change.

ITALY : 3 home, Tunis. (4). No change.

ENGLAND: None. Must remove all remaining forces.

Deadline for builds is set at Saturday, 15 April 1967. If builds are received appreciably ahead of deadline, publication will be correspondingly advanced. Players may, if they wish, submit moves for Spring 1968, conditional on the builds of the other powers.

PRESS RELEASES

Helsingfors, 1 Sept. (DUP) The English government in exile wishes to extend warm greetings to Germany and France. It is hoped that both countries will find Edinburgh to their liking. A war, "you haven't got me yet" is sent to St. Petersburg.

Canary Islands, 10 Oct. The Free Spain movement is suffering a serious setback with the appearance of a French fleet in the Western Mediterranean. Many predict that the leaders will commit suicide or flee to Graustark.

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GAME OPENINGS

The list of Diplomacy 'zines, and availability of openings, published in BROB #54, with the amendments in #55, should have the additional corrections listed below.

LOVELLY MOUNTAIN, Charles Wells, 3678 Lindholm, Cleveland, Ohio, 44120.
Al Scott, 2769 Hampshire, Cleveland, Ohio, 44106, will

run a game in LM. I can recall no announcement of what the game fee is, but the usual LM fee is \$3. A complete board is now ready, except that one player is needed to fill the seventh place. This game, under the alternate gamesmaster, is probably the only chance to enter LM before next September. As LM games are among the most desired it is an opportunity that shouldn't be missed.

CEREAL MEEBULA, 1, Greg Long, 3526 S.W. 112, Seattle, Wash., 98146.

The first issue has now been published and it appears that the name is in the singular, not the plural as previously announced. Also the pay-as-you-go feature has been dropped; the game fee is a straight \$2.

XENO, 1, Dan Brannen, 3044A Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, Calif., 94705.

This magazine is to carry a space war variant. The rules of the game are given in this first issue so that anyone interested should get a copy of this issue anyhow. The game fee is \$2. The next development now, obviously, would be for John Boardman, as a relativity theorist, to produce a four dimensional variant. Though there is a difficulty. One of the most characteristic features of Diplomacy is the simultaneous move. There might be some difficulty in reconciling simultaneity and relativity theory. And with L. Bordscha appearing in at least four separate time tracks, (see page 3), perhaps we are already in the relativity stage of the game.

COUNTRY STRENGTHS

The BROODINGWAG Completed Game Rating List regularly includes a country list. The most recent edition of it, BROB #53, gave the following ranking for the seven powers:

Turkey	+30	70.8%
England	+15	60.4
France	- 1	49.9
Austria	- 5	46.5
Russia	-11	42.4
Germany	-14	40.3
Italy	-14	40.3

This listing is based on the twelve individual seven-man postal games completed to date, 1963B, 1964A, B, C, D, 1965A, E, I, L, S, T, 1966D. It seemed that it might be a good idea to apply the other well known rating systems to the same twelve games, again considered as countries, rather than as individual players, to see what differences, if any, would emerge.

The Reinsel Rating system, the first to be suggested, and regularly updated in Big Brother, assigns to the winner as many points as there are players in the game, gives 2 points to a strong survivor, one with more than nine forces on the board at end of play, and gives one point to all other survivors. There is a penalty of a point for a country that is eliminated. Using this scale on the twelve games we get the following country list:

Turkey	+30
England	+18
Austria	+13
Russia	+06
France	+ 3
Italy	+ 3
Germany	0

The other well known rating scheme, is the centre-

year system, formerly carried in Graustark, and now continued in Euralia. There are a few details of it which are obscure to me. For instance, is the year 1900 counted? (It wasn't in what follows here.) If a game ends on the Spring move, is that year counted as a full year? (It was in what follows.) So that Jim Sanders' own figures would differ slightly from these but, I think, probably not significantly. For centre year country rating list we get:

Turkey	927
England	794
Austria	701
France	683
Russia	649
Germany	525
Italy	485.

(In Glockorla, Dave Lebling publishes another centre-year rating list and, in the latest issue, #2, he publishes a country list. It should be noted that his list cannot be compared with the above, as he did not include game 1965S, a tabulation of whose centres had not been published when Glock #2 went to press. I think that there are other differences as well in the games listed as he makes the statement that only once has England survived without winning. In fact, England survived in 1964B, 1964D, and 1965A. In all three of them, in mid-game, England was the power giving th most trouble to the eventual winner. I know where-of I speak as I was in all three of those games.)

In both the Reinsel Rating listing, and the Centre-year Rating listing, Austria moves up from the fourth place, which the BROB system assigned it, to third place. I am rather happy to see this. I have several times been taken to

task by readers who feel that the Brob Rating List unduly favors Austria. (See the letter from Jared Johnson in BROB #54 for an instance of this.) So this error, if it is an error, is even more pronounced in the Reinsel and Centre-year systems than in the BROB one; the difference in score between third and fourth ranking country is small in all the lists, however.

The other notable discrepancy in the three lists is that the Reinsel system gives a much lower score to France and Germany than do the other two systems. That is to be expected. The Reinsel system gives the big prize to the winner of the game, and only minor awards to other powers. The other two systems, on the other hand, are more evenly graded, giving, on the average, the second ranking power in a game only a little less than the winner, the third about the same amount less than the second, and so on. Since there has not yet been a win by either Germany or France it is not surprising that they do badly in the Reinsel system.

Incidentally, three games are within a few moves of ending, one in Graustark, and two in Wild 'n Woolly. Three additional games make a 25 percent increase in material available, and there may be significant changes in all the listings when these new games are included.

SERIALIZED BAG

MOFTE J. ZIMZNY, P. O. Box 1062, Melbourne, Florida, 32901: In BROB #55 you legalize simultaneous support and attack on the same foreign unit. Does this mean that the support order works and would stand off a third power double attack?

((+(Yes, provided it wasn't interfered with by still another power. There is a discussion of a case where where this manoeuvre might arise in BROB #52. - jamcc)+))

GREG LONG, 3526 S.W. 112, Seattle, Wash., 98146: I would rule in the situation given in BROB #55, with regards to cutting one's own throat, that the support order is still good. Since most of the gamesmasters would rule the same, I'd like to ask where in the Rulebook is any mention given to cutting one's own support?

((+(Nowhere. The rulebook merely states that a supporting force, attacked from the side, has its support cut. No mention is made as to ownership of the supporting force. It might therefore be argued, "by omission", as John Boardman has done in some other cases, that the quoted rule applies in all cases, including that when the attacking force belongs to the same power as does the supporting force. However, this is one of the rare cases (I think the only one) where there is unanimity among gamesmasters. Let us not spoil it. BROB, as stated last issue, will go along with the majority ruling. The support in such a case will not be cut. - jamcc)+))

KENNETH HORNELL, 266 Carroll St., New Bedford, Mass., 02740: Your rule interpretation about the self stand-off ((EROB #55)) was interesting. Probably a more important point is the rule about an attacked piece having to turn to face its attacker. In other words, it would have been perfectly legal for the Mid-Atlantic fleet to attack the Channel Fleet and there would be a stand off right there. According to the rule: all attacked pieces must turn to face their attackers. I'd like to hear your views on this - as this is how I've always interpreted it.

((+(I am not sure that I understand your point here. In the example given in EROB #55, the fleet in the Mid-Atlantic was not attempting to achieve a stand-off, it was the other side that was doing that. And there was no fleet at all mentioned as being in the Channel. If there were a fleet in the Channel attempting to support some action or other, the move Fleet Mid-Atlantic to Channel would certainly cut that support. However, as I understand you, you mean a great deal more than this. What I think you are suggesting is that if the fleet in the Mid-Atlantic belonged to France, and the one in the Channel to a hostile power, say England, and if the French player feared that the Channel fleet might invade Brest then you are suggesting that a legitimate defence would be to order fleet Mid-Atlantic to Channel, forcing the fleet in the latter to abandon an attack on Brest and stand and defend itself.

This is certainly a novel suggestion. It means that an attack on a foreign unit cuts not only its support, but anything else that it might attempt to do, other than stand. No published game has been played under such an interpretation. It is not supported by the rule book. For instance, in the example given at the back of the book, Spring 1902, the Russian move Army Galicia to Budapest would, under this interpretation prevent the Austrian move Army Budapest to Serbia, a move which the rulebook allowed to succeed.

Such an interpretation would certainly not correspond with the realities of war. For instance, under it, an army retreating before a stronger hostile force, in order to fight on more favourable ground, or in order to make juncture, before offering battle, with reserve or allied units coming to its support, such an army would have, as soon as its rear guard came under attack, however slight, to stand and offer battle immediately. A general with such a weird concept of strategy would not be a general long: he would have no army left to command anytime that his forces came anywhere close to a superior force.

However, as a game, this variant might well be worth a try to see how it works. It is certainly a much more fundamental variant than those played on variant maps and the like. -jamcc)+))

NEW BLOOD

I have had several letters from people asking about Postal Diplomacy. Some of them may be interested in game openings. Their names and addresses are listed overleaf:

Kenneth Hoffman, Box #216, Dearfield Academy, Dearfield, Mass., 01342. Please ignore the address given for him on the previous page; the one given here is the correct one for the next three months.

Raymond Piche, 21 Chapin Place, Hartford, Conn., 06114.

William Lee Linden, Solebury School, New Hope, Penna., 18938.

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BROBDINGNAG B a n n e d i n B r o b d i n g n a g !

BROBDINGNAG has fallen under the ban of the Empire of Brobdingnag. Any copy of it arriving in that country is to be burned by the public executioner, and its editor is to be hanged if apprehended there. And this because it is guilty of transgressing one of the most ancient and respected laws of that kingdom:

"No law of that country must exceed in words the number of letters in their alphabet, which consists only in two and twenty. But indeed few of them extend even to that length. They are expressed in the most plain and simple terms, wherein those people are not necurial enough to discover above one interpretation; and to write a comment on any law is a capital crime."

Swift: Gulliver's Travels,
Part II: A Voyage to Brobdingnag,
Chap. VII.

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I need the following issues of Diplomacy 'pines. If you have spares of any of these, please let me know what price you are asking for them.

Graustark, #'s 1 - 5, 7 - 10

Ruritania, #'s 8 and 26.

Lusitania, #1

If really pushed to it I think I could get along without the last, without my grief being inconsolable. However, the nine issues of Graustark and the two of Ruritania make a real hole in my collection.

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BROBDINGNAG sells for ten cents a copy and subscriptions may be entered, at that rate, for any number of issues. There is also a subscription rate of \$2 to carry to the end of any designated game in it.